

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 10896 161809Z

63

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 AEC-11 EA-11 AID-20 CIEP-03

MC-02 EB-11 TRSE-00 COME-00 DRC-01 /171 W

----- 095300

R 161650Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3320

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMAOND

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 10896

E.16. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJ: SWARAN SINGH AGAIN DEFENDS IMPROVING INDO-US RELATIONS

SUMMARY: SWARAN SINGH TODAY FENDED OFF SEVERAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WHO CITED REASONS WHY INDO-US RELATIONS SHOULD NOT IMPROVE. AT ONE POINT HE HAD TO APPEAL TO MEMBERS NOT TO PUT HIM IN THE POSITION OF DEFENDING AMERICAN POLICIES. HE DIDN'T, BUT HE DID TRY TO CORRECT SOME MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT PRESIDENT FORD'S STATEMENTS AND INITIAL DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS; ABOUT US-PAKISTAN RELATIONS; ABOUT THE US REACTION TO THE INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION; AND ABOUT INXCT MOTIVES FOR IMPROVING RELATIONS. HE ALSO ANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT DIEGO GARCIA. END SUMMARY.

1. A SIMPLE PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION ABOUT FOREIGN SECRETARY KEWAL SINGH'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER TOUCHED OFF A 20-MINUTE DISCUSSION OF INDO-US RELATIONS IN THE RAJYA SABHA
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 10896 161809Z

AUGUST 16. SWARAN SINGH ANSWERED THE MAIN QUESTION IN

GENERALITIES. THE SECRETARY AND THE FOREIGN SECRETARY DISCUSSED INDO-US RELATIONS, THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, AND THE SUB-CONTINENT, HE SAID. HE THEN DESCRIBED INDO-US RELATIONS AS IMPROVING FOLLOWING US RECOGNITION OF BANGLADESH AND FOLLOWING THE REMOVAL OF THE IRRITANT IN INDO-US RELATIONS WHICH THE VIETNAM WAR HAD REPRESENTED. LATER, HE EXPLAINED THAT WHILE INDIA WATCHED A NUMBER OF AREAS VERY CLOSELY (CONTINUING CLASHES IN VIETNAM, DIEGO GARCIA AND "OTHERS) RELATIONS WITH THE US HAD TO BE CONSIDERED IN THEIR TOTALITY RATHER THAN ON THE BASIS OF SINGLE ISSUES, ON WHICH THERE MIGHT BE DISAGREEMENTS.

2. PRESIDENT FORD'S STATEMENTS AND MEETINGS: SWARAN SINGH TOLD MEMBERS, WHO ASKED WHY THE PRESIDENT HAD NOT MENTIONED SOUTH ASIA IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS AND WHETHER THE PRESIDENT WAS NOT CONTINUING TO SUPPORT AMERICA'S ASIAN ALLIES (I.E., PAKISTAN), THAT HE HAD FOUND NO ANTI-INDIAN SLANT IN THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. HE TOLD MP'S NOT TO TRY TO READ TOO MUCH INTO THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. HE ALSO ASKED THEM NOT TO BE TOUCHY AND PETTY ABOUT THE EXCLUSION OF THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR FROM THOSE WHOM PRESIDENT FORD SAW THE FIRST DAY. THE MAJORITY OF AMBASSADORS HAD NOT BEEN CALLED, AND MANY OF THOSE WHO WERE REPRESENTED COUNTRIES IN DEFENSE PACTS WITH THE US. "I HOPE MEMBERS WOULD NOT LIKE INDIA TO BE AMONG THOSE COUNTRIES," SWARAN SINGH SAID. THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF ANY AFFRONT, SINCE SECRETARY KISSINGER RECEIVED THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR THE NEXT DAY, SWARAN SINGH ADDED.

3. US-PAKISTAN RELATIONS: THE FOREIGN MINISTER EXPLAINED THAT THE US HAD EXPRESSED BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC APPRECIATION FOR INDIA'S EFFORTS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS ON THE SUBCONTINENT. THE US EMBARGO ON SUPPLY OF LETHAL WEAPONS TO INDIA AND PAKISTAN "CONTINUES AND THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THAT POLICY," HE SAID.

4. INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION: SWARAN SINGH DISAGREED WITH A MEMBER WHO CLAIMED THE US HAD "OVER-REACTED" TO THE INDIAN BLAST. OTHER COUNTRIES HAD, BUT THE US HAD NOT.

5. INDIAN MOTIVES: THE FOREIGN MINISTER DENIED THAT INDIA WANTED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NEW DE 10896 161809Z

IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE US TO GET AMERICAN CAPITAL. INDIA WANTED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS PROVIDED THE US RECIPROCATED. "IF ANY BENEFIT ACCRUES TO OUR COUNTRY FROM THE IMPROVED RELATIONS, I SHALL NOT SPURN IT," HE ADDED.

5. DIEGO GARCIA: INDIA'S OPPOSITION CONTINUED AND WAS WELL KNOWN,

BUT INDIA THOUGH IT MORE USEFUL TI MAKE IT A MULTILATERAL
ISSUE, WHERE IT WOULD HAVE THE SUPPORT OF OTHER COUNTRIES,
RATHER THAN A BILATERAL ONE.
MOYNIHAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, DIEGO GARCIA, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE10896
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740226-0507
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740841/aaaabjbw.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWARAN SINGH AGAIN DEFENDS IMPROVING INDO-US RELATIONS SUMMARY: SWARAN SINGH TODAY FENDED OFF SAWERAL MEMBERS OF
TAGS: PFOR, IN, US, (SINGH, SWARAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005